



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6750

LCO No. 3317

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SCHOOL-TO-CAREER PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-20a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) (1) Local and regional boards of education, the regional
4 vocational-technical school system, postsecondary institutions and
5 regional educational service centers, may (A) in consultation with
6 regional workforce development boards established pursuant to
7 section 31-3k, local employers, labor organizations and community-
8 based organizations establish programs leading to a Connecticut career
9 certificate in accordance with this section, and (B) enroll students in
10 such programs based on entry criteria determined by the establishing
11 agency. Such programs shall be approved by the Commissioner of
12 Education and the Labor Commissioner, [after review and comment
13 by the regional school-to-career partnership established by the
14 Commissioner of Education pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
15 subsection for the region in which the program is proposed to operate.]
16 Applications for program approval shall be submitted to the
17 Commissioner of Education in such form and at such time as he

18 prescribes. All programs leading to a Connecticut career certificate
19 shall provide equal access for all students and necessary
20 accommodations and support for students with disabilities.

21 (2) The Commissioner of Education [shall] may establish regional
22 school-to-career partnerships. The partnerships [shall] may include,
23 but need not be limited to, educators, students and representatives of
24 local and regional boards of education, postsecondary educational
25 institutions, regional workforce development boards established
26 pursuant to section 31-3k, business and industry and labor
27 organizations.

28 Sec. 2. Section 10-20d of the general statutes is repealed and the
29 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

30 (a) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the [Labor
31 Commissioner and the Commissioners of Economic and Community
32 Development and Higher Education,] Connecticut Employment and
33 Training Commission shall, within the limits of available
34 appropriations, provide grants to local and regional boards of
35 education, the vocational-technical school system, postsecondary
36 institutions, regional workforce development boards, regional
37 educational service centers and other appropriate agencies and
38 organizations to support the development and implementation of
39 programs leading to a Connecticut career certificate pursuant to
40 section 10-20a.

41 (b) In awarding grants pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of
42 Education [shall] may give priority to interdistrict programs and
43 programs operated in priority school districts, as described in section
44 10-266p. Grant applications [shall] may include documentation of
45 review and comment by [the] a regional school-to-career partnership
46 established by the Commissioner of Education for the region in which
47 the program is proposed to operate.

48 (c) If the Commissioner of Education finds that some or all of the

49 amount of any grant awarded pursuant to this section is used for
50 purposes which are not in conformity with sections 10-20a to 10-20d,
51 inclusive, or is used to reduce the local share of support for schools or
52 to supplant a previous source of funding, the commissioner may
53 require repayment of such grant to the state.

54 (d) Each grant recipient shall submit to the Commissioner of
55 Education, at such time and in such manner as he prescribes, a biennial
56 program evaluation report.

57 Sec. 3. Section 10-20f of the general statutes is repealed and the
58 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

59 The state Department of Education may retain up to [one] five per
60 cent of the amount appropriated for programs established pursuant to
61 section 10-20a for purposes of administration and coordination,
62 technical assistance, information dissemination and program
63 evaluation.

64 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To remove the requirement that potential program operators submit applications for program approval to the regional school-to-career partnerships; to permit, rather than mandate, that the Commissioner of Education establish regional school-to-career partnerships and certain persons be included in the partnerships; to remove the requirement that the Commissioner of Education consult with the Labor Commissioner and the Commissioners of Economic Development and Higher Education and replacing it with requiring that the Commissioner of Education consult with the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission; to permit, rather than mandate, that priority be given to grants to interdistrict programs and programs operated in priority school districts and applications be reviewed and commented on by the regional school-to-career partnerships; and to increase the administrative set-aside from one per cent to five per cent.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]